

AHP/ANP Community Transitions: Twice Distinguished Professor Birsen Karpak retires from Youngstown State University, USA

Our beloved *IJAHP* editorial board member and Associate Editor, Dr. Birsen Karpak, has announced her retirement from Youngstown State University (YSU), USA, where she has worked for the past 36 years. Fortunately for us, she will remain active with the *IJAHP* journal. Dr. Karpak's recent research has been mainly in AHP/ANP applications in supply chain management. She has taught Enterprise Resource Management systems and is a certified SAP professional. She plans to continue teaching SAP integrated courses at YSU and helping her colleagues integrate SAP into their classes. During her career, she published in a variety of prestigious journals, including the *International Journal of Production Economics*, the *European Journal of Purchasing and Supply Management*, the *Journal of Multi-Criteria Decision Analysis*, the *Transportation Journal*, the *International Journal of Logistics Systems and Management*, and, of course, our own journal, the *International Journal of the Analytic Hierarchy Process*.
<https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=KYxDfRYAAAAJ>



Professor Thomas Saaty with Dr. Birsen Karpak (to his left) together with Youngstown State University MBA students who participated in the ISAHP 2014

At her retirement, Dr. Birsen Karpak was the second most cited faculty member at the Williamson College of Business (WCBA), Youngstown State University. She loves deep teaching/learning, preparing “business ready” students, providing meaningful service, doing high-quality research with her colleagues at YSU and her international colleagues, and has taught hundreds of students. She has always been happiest when her students get jobs at Fortune 500 companies, especially when they tell her they got those jobs because

of her classes or the Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) certification they received while studying at WCBA.

While this is not the place to list all the different honors and awards Dr. Karpak received during her career, it is worth noting that she has twice had the unique distinction of being named a Distinguished Professor at her institution. YSU awards the title of Distinguished Professor to faculty members who are outstanding in teaching, research, and service. Dr. Karpak was the first professor at WCBA to be given the title of Distinguished Professor for the second time in April this year.



Birsen Karpak receiving the first title of Distinguished Professor from Provost Martin Abraham in April 2015

What is particularly important for us is that she has been a close member and significant contributor to our AHP/ANP community since the early days. As *IJAHP* colleagues and friends, we wish her the best in her new professional and personal stage of life. She hopes to be even better in her professional activities and continue contributing to her beloved AHP/ANP community from now on.